



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 01-1699)

PATENT

In re Application of: Sickinger et al.)
Serial No.: 09/992,304) Before the Examiner:
Filed: November 19, 2001) Group Art Unit: 3754
For: Method and Device for separating)
Samples from a liquid)

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

JUL 15 2002

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Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98 in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-2490.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff

Kevin E. Noonan
Reg. No. 45,303

Dated: July 9, 2002


**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application No.	09/992,304
Filing Date:	November 19, 2001
First Named Inventor	Sickinger et al.
Group Art Unit	3754
Examiner Name	

Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	01-1699
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5,916,524	A	Tisone et al.	06-29-99	
		5,763,278	A	Sickinger et al.	6-29-98	
		6,063,339	A	Tisone et al.	5-16-00	
		5,927,547	A	Papen et al.	7-27-99	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO	99 42804	A	Cartesian Technologies Inc.	8-26-99		
		EP	0 725 267	A	Rossendorf Forschzent	8-7-96		
		DE	199 19 135	A	BASF AG	11-2-00		

OTHER DOCUMENTS -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²

Examiner Signature	RECEIVED	JUL 15 2002	RECEIVED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3).

⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English translation is attached.

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